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### *Celebrate Ten Years of Supported Living!*

July 2002 marks the ten year anniversary of Supported Living. The Supported Living Statute was passed by the Kentucky Legislature and signed into law by the Governor in March of 1992. The law became effective in July 1992. Under Supported Living, any person with a disability recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act can apply for a grant for on-going or one-time-only supports. Individuals determine for themselves their needs for support and apply based on these needs. Each year, Regional Councils around the state make funding recommendations based on these applications. Over the past ten years, hundreds of Kentuckians with disabilities have been supported to have meaningful lives in their communities.

The ten-year anniversary of Supported Living will be celebrated the afternoon of July 16 with a reception at the Griffin Gate Clubhouse in Lexington. The Ida L. Terry Commitment to Excellence Award will be presented and Supported Living stories will be shared with legislators and others who have been instrumental in starting and continuing Supported Living. Everyone is invited! For directions and information, please contact Vondah Vanderhorst at (502) 564-7702.

#### **State Supported Living Coordinator**

Vondah Vanderhorst

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### *The View From the Fourth Floor*

by Vondah Vanderhorst,  
State Supported Living Coordinator

On July 2, 2001, I moved to my new office on the fourth floor of 100 Fair Oaks in Frankfort. I was now the State Supported Living Coordinator. From 1995 to 2000, I had been the Regional Supported Living Coordinator for the Bluegrass Region. Most recently, I had been an Area Administrator for the Supports for Community Living program. As I settled into my new office, I discovered that even though my cubicle had no windows, I had a wonderful view of the Supported Living program across the entire state of Kentucky.

I have met with each of the fourteen Regional Councils, providing introductions and training. From Four Rivers in Paducah to Pathways in Ashland and everywhere in between, I have seen the dedication and hard work of all the Councils across the State.

I have worked with the Regional Coordinators in a variety of settings. We have enjoyed a Retreat, met with the State Council in joint meetings in July, October and March and individually in every Region. We have Coordinators with a variety of backgrounds. Some have been with Supported Living since it became a Regional program and who are willing to share their knowledge and experience. Our 'new' coordinators bring enthusiasm and energy to their jobs. In addition to their many duties, Regional Coordinators have volunteered to serve on program work groups. I have learned much and received a great view from all

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## *The View From the Fourth Floor, Continued*

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The State Support Living Council has also given me a great historical view of Supported Living. The Council meets about once a month. A special thanks to Communicare for providing our accommodations. Larry Kimberlain, the current Chair, has been on the Council since its beginning. Doug Riddell, the current Vice-Chair and a new Council member, has been instrumental in the start of Supported Living and its implementation for many years as a Division employee. Now 'retired', Doug gives his knowledge and commitment to Supported Living as a State Council member. The entire State Council works diligently to provide oversight and leadership for Supported Living. They give not only a view of the past but a vision of the future where people with disabilities receive the support they need to live in their communities.

A powerful view comes from recipients of Supported Living, who are its most vocal supporters. People talk about how Supported Living has changed their lives. Many especially appreciate the way the program makes it possible to choose the supports they need and

the people who provide those supports. Many have met the challenges that go along with being in charge, such as hiring, paying, managing, and keeping good employees or contractors. When asked how to improve Supported Living, the overwhelming response is that recipients want more funds so others can benefit from the program. I have also had the opportunity to talk to those who are in the process of applying or who have not been funded. Supported Living can provide supports to individuals with any disability, but each year there are many, many deserving and compelling applications that are not funded solely for lack of available funding. The most difficult aspect of Supported Living for Council members and Coordinators is saying no to these applicants.

The view of Supported living that I see from the fourth floor here in Frankfort is of a wonderful program that provides individuals with disabilities the opportunity to receive the supports they need to live and participate in their community, to learn new skills and to make new friends. It is a program that is successful because many people work very hard: Council members, Coordinators and especially recipients and those who support them. There are many more people who would like to participate in this program and it is my view of the future that Supported Living will continue to thrive and grow.

### *A Salute to Supported Living Councils*

Supported Living Councils are the heart and soul of Supported Living in Kentucky. From April to June of each year, eight unpaid, volunteer Council members in each Region spend uncounted hours reviewing Supported Living applications and making funding recommendations. Councils also meet at least every other month in regular session. This is important and often difficult work. Council members report that the most difficult aspect is being unable to fund many of the very worthy and deserving applications that are submitted. Every year there are many more applications for funding than there is funding available and Councils must make some very difficult decisions. Council members also report that the most satisfying aspect of Supported Living is being able to fund supports and services that are needed and wanted. Council members appreciate the principle of supported living where individuals with disabilities can determine for themselves how they can best be supported and who can provide the supports they need.

The fourteen Supported Living Regional Councils are each made up of eight people appointed by the Governor to serve three-year terms. The Governor appoints Council members from names submitted by nominating organizations. There

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# ***Your Regional Supported Living Coordinators***

## **Region I - Four Rivers**

*Ballard, Callaway, Carlisle, Fulton,  
Graves, Hickman, Livingston,  
McCracken, Marshall*

### **Gayle Wadlington**

2850 Adams Street  
Paducah, KY 42001  
Phone: (270) 442-5088

## **Region II - Pennyroyal**

*Caldwell, Christian, Crittenden,  
Hopkins, Lyon, Muhlenberg, Todd, Trigg*

### **Margie Johnson**

PO Box 614  
Hopkinsville, KY 42241  
Phone: (270) 885-1601

## **Region III - River Valley**

*Daviess, Hancock, Henderson,  
McLean, Ohio, Union, Webster*

### **Anne Larimore**

1100 Walnut Street  
PO Box 1637  
Owensboro, KY 42302  
Phone: (270) 689-6500  
e-mail: annelarimore@rvbh.com

## **Region IV - Lifeskills**

*Allen, Barren, Buller, Edmonson,  
Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe,  
Simpson, Warren*

### **David Wheeler**

PO Box 6499  
Bowling Green, KY 42102-6499  
Phone: (270) 842-2274  
e-mail: dwheeler@lifeskills.com

## **Region V - Communicare**

*Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin,  
Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Washington*

### **Laura Urey**

320 Ring Road  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
Phone: (270) 769-3377 x18

## **Region VI - Seven Counties**

*Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham,  
Shelby, Spencer, Trimble*

### **Becca Krall**

3717 Taylorsville Road  
Louisville, KY 40220  
Phone: (502) 459-5292  
e-mail: bkrall@sevencounties.org

## **Region VII - Northern Kentucky**

*Boone, Campbell, Carroll,  
Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen, Pendleton*

### **Ernetta Turner**

320 Montjoy Street  
Falmouth, KY 41040  
Phone: (859) 654-6988

## **Region VIII - Comprehend**

*Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason,  
Robertson*

### **Cathy Hughes**

741 Kenton Station Road  
Maysville, KY 41056  
Phone: (606) 759-7161  
e-mail: dewey@maysvilleky.net

## **Region X - Pathways**

*Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup,  
Lawrence, Bath, Menifee,  
Montgomery, Morgan, Rowan*

### **Pat Rhodes**

PO Box 790  
Ashland, KY 41105-0790  
Phone: (606) 329-8588 x4072  
e-mail: prhodes@pathways-ky.org

## **Region XI - Mountain**

*Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin,  
Pike*

### **Cathy Walker**

150 South Front Street  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
Phone: (606) 886-8572

## **Region XII - Kentucky River**

*Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Leslie,  
Letcher, Owsley, Perry, Wolfe*

### **Stephanie Bentley**

115 Rockwood Lane  
Hazard, KY 41701  
Phone: (606) 436-5761 x255

## **Region XIII - Cumberland River**

*Bell, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox,  
Laurel, Rockcastle, Whitley*

### **Kimberly Wake**

PO Box 568  
Corbin, KY 40702  
Phone: (606) 528-7010

## **Region XIV - Adanta**

*Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland,  
Green, McCreary, Pulaski, Russell,  
Taylor, Wayne*

### **Joel Thomas**

72 Southland Drive  
Somerset, KY 42501  
Phone: (606) 679-4782 x227  
e-mail: jthomas@adanta.org

## **Region XV - Bluegrass**

*Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark,  
Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard,  
Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln,  
Madison, Mercer, Nicholas,  
Powell, Scott, Woodford*

### **Pat Galvin**

3479 Buckhorn Drive  
Lexington, KY 40515  
Phone: (859) 272-7483





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